GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2618
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2005
PROMOTION OF SPORTS IN RURAL AREAS OF WEST BENGAL
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Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by the Union Government for promotion of various sports in the rural areas of West Bengal;

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for the construction of sports complexes in the rural areas of West Bengal;

(c) whether any stadium has been constructed in West Bengal during the last two years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) 'Sports' is a State subject and promotion of the same at State level is the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, the Government of India, through its own scheme and Schemes of Sports Authority of India (SAI), augments the efforts of the State Government in promotion of sports for improving sports performances at Junior, Sub- Junior and Senior level.

Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports implements, through Sports Authority of India, a scheme of 'Incentives for Promotion of Sports Activities' under which Rural Sports Programme is one of the components. Under this programme, the grant-in-aid for District level competitions is placed at the disposal of SAI for allocation to State/UT Governments. The National level rural tournaments were organized from 13th to 16th January, 2005 at Aurangabad (Maharastra) where 21 sportspersons from West Bengal participated.

SAI is implementing the following schemes for promotion and Development of Sports in West Bengal:-

1. National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) - Following Schools are supported

a. Sukantanagar Vidyaniketan Salt Lake City, Calcutta.
b. G.G. High Sec. School, Krishna Nagar
c. Dowhill G.H. School, Kurseong
d. Sharda Vihar Mandir, Sudarshanpur Post Raiganj, Distt. Dinajpur

2. SAI Training Centre (STC)

(a) Kolkata
(b) Burdwan
(c) Silliguri
(d) Lebong

3. Centre of Excellence (COX) : In addition, a Centre of Excellence is run at Kolkata.

Induction of sportspersons under the SAI schemes is done on the basis of selection trials conducted on all India basis in which children from rural & tribal areas also take part.

(b) to (d) : Till 31.3.2005, the Ministry was supplementing the sports of the State Governments, including West Bengal, for construction of sports facilities including Stadia/Sports Complexes in rural as well as urban areas under the scheme of 'Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure'.

During the last two years, details of assistance provided to West Bengal for construction of Stadia is as under :-

Project	Status
Indoor Stadium (Cat III) at Jalpaiguri	Rs. 2 lakh released in 2003-04 as final instalment out of total approved amount of Rs. 20.00 lakh. Project is completed.
Indoor Stadium (Cat I) at Bolpur, Distt. Birbhum	Rs. 42.00 lakhs released on 21.3.2005 and project is under construction.